Post 12-6-71

ACLU Opposed To Rehnquist

NEW YORK, Dec. 5 (UPI)—The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) announced today it was taking the unprecedented step of opposing the nomination of William H. Rehnquist to the Supreme Court because it considered the Assistant Attorney General "a dedicated opponent of individual liberties."

ACLU Chairman Edward J. Ennis told a news conference this was the first time in the organization's 51-year history that it had opposed a candidate for public office.

"The ACLU prizes its tradition of political nonpartisanship," Ennis said. "We have taken an extraordinary step because of extraordinary circumstances."

Rehnquist's nomination will be debated in the Senate this week.